

Applicant: Wasserscheid et al.
Filing Date: March 11, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

Docket No. VSKW-1

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Claims

We claim the following:

1) (Canceled)

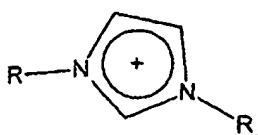
1 2) (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1-A method of using a compound of the Formula~~
5 ~~1 in a process.~~(cation)(R'SO₄)
Formula 1comprising the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or
extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive,
10 wherein:R' is selected from the group consisting of a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or alicyclic, functionalized or non-functionalized alkyl radical with 3-36 carbon atoms, wherein R' is optionally functionalized with one or more X groups; X is selected from the group consisting of an -OH, -OR'', -COOH, -COOR'', -NH₂, -SO₄, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I or -CN; and R'' is selected from the group consisting of a branched or linear hydrocarbon chain with 1 - 12 carbon atoms;

the compound has a melting point of less than 100° C; and

wherein the cation is a nitrogen-containing cation selected from the group consisting of a quaternary ammonium cation, an imidazolium cation, a pyridinium cation, a pyrazolium cation, a phosphonium and a triazolium cation.

2 2) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the cation is selected from the group consisting of:

- a) quaternary ammonium cation with the general formula (NR₁R₂R₃R)⁺;
- b) phosphonium cation with the general formula (PR₁R₂R₃R)⁺;
- c) imidazolium cation with the general formula

in which the imidazole core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group;

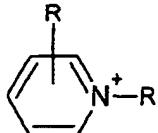
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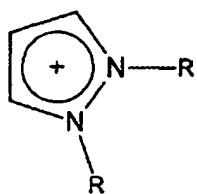
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d) pyridinium cation with the general formula



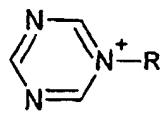
in which the pyridine core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group;

e) pyrazolium cation with the general formula



in which the pyrazole core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group; and

f) triazolium cation with the general formula



in which the triazole core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group; wherein

g) the radicals R¹, R², R³ are selected independently at each occurrence from the group consisting of:

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or alicyclic alkyl groups with 1 to 20 carbon atoms;
- iii) heteroaryl groups, heteroaryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 3 to 8 carbon atoms in the heteroaryl radical and at least one heteroatom selected from N, O and S which is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl groups and/or

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halogen atoms;

iv) aryl, aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 5 to 12 carbon atoms in the aryl radical, which is optionally substituted with at least one C₁-C₆ alkyl group and/or a halogen atom; and

h) the radical R is selected from the group consisting of:

5 i) linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or alicyclic alkyl groups with 1 to 20 carbon atoms;

ii) heteroaryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 3 to 8 carbon atoms in the aryl radical and at least one heteroatom selected from N, O and S, which is optionally substituted with at least one C₁-C₆ alkyl group and/or halogen atom; and

10 iii) aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 5 to 12 carbon atoms in the aryl radical, which is optionally substituted with at least one C₁-C₆ alkyl group and/or halogen atom.

3.4) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the anion has an empirical formula selected from the group consisting of C₄H₉SO₄, C₈H₁₇SO₄ or C₁₂H₂₅SO₄.

4.5) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 has a melting point of less than 75° C.

5.6) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 has a melting point of less than 50° C.

6.7) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein (R'SO₄) is an alkyl sulfate ester, wherein the alkyl moiety is selected from the group consisting of butyl, octyl, 2-ethylhexyl, 20 and dodecyl; and the method comprises the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing the compound as a phase transfer catalyst.

7.8) (Previously Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the cation is a nitrogen containing cation selected from the group consisting of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl, 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-butyl-pyridinium, trimethyldecylammonium, trioctylmethylammonium, trimethyldecylammonium, and trihexyltetradecylphosphonium.

8.9) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein the cation is a nitrogen containing cation selected from the group consisting of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl, 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-

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decyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-butyl-pyridinium, trimethyldecylammonium, trioctylmethylammonium, trimethyldecylammonium, and trihexyltetradecylphosphonium; and the method comprises the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing the compound as a phase transfer catalyst.

9 10) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 is used in a reaction catalyzed by a transition metal; and the method comprises the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing the compound as a phase transfer catalyst.

10 11) (Previously Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 is used in a hydroformylation reaction, oligomerization reaction, esterification reaction, isomerization reaction or amide bond-forming reaction.

15 11 12) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 is used in a reaction catalyzed by an enzyme or biocatalyst; and the method comprises the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing the compound as a phase transfer catalyst.

20 12 13) (Previously Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 is used in an oligomerization reaction, C-C bond-forming reaction, esterification reaction, isomerization reaction, or amide bond-forming reaction.

13 14) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 is substantially hydrolytically stable in neutral aqueous solution (pH = 7) up to 80° C.

25 14 15) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound of the Formula 1 has a melting point of less than 25° C.

15 16) (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:
a) 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl sulfate;
30 b) 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium octyl sulfate;
c) 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;

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- d) 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium dodecyl sulfate;
- e) 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl sulfate;
- f) 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium octyl sulfate;
- g) 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- 5 h) 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium dodecyl sulfate;
- i) 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl sulfate;
- j) 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium octyl sulfate;
- k) 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- 10 l) 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium dodecyl sulfate;
- m) 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl sulfate;
- n) 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium octyl sulfate;
- o) 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- p) 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium dodecyl sulfate;
- 15 q) 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl sulfate;
- r) 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium octyl sulfate;
- s) 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- t) 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium dodecyl sulfate;
- 20 u) 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl sulfate;
- v) 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium octyl sulfate;
- w) 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- x) 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium dodecyl sulfate;
- y) 1-butyl-pyridinium butyl sulfate;
- 25 z) 1-butyl-pyridinium octyl sulfate;
- aa) 1-butyl-pyridinium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- bb) 1-butyl-pyridinium dodecyl sulfate;
- cc) trimethyldecylammonium butyl sulfate;
- dd) trimethyldecylammonium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- ee) trioctylmethylammonium butyl sulfate;
- ff) trioctylmethylammonium octyl sulfate;
- 30 gg) trioctylmethylammonium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- hh) trioctylmethylammonium dodecyl sulfate;

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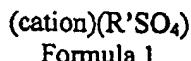
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- ii) trimethyldecylammonium butyl sulfate;
- jj) trimethyldecylammonium octyl sulfate;
- kk) trihexyltetradecylphosphonium butyl sulfate;
- ll) trihexyltetradecylphosphonium octyl sulfate;
- mm) trihexyltetradecylphosphonium 2-ethylhexyl sulfate;
- nn) trihexyltetradecylphosphonium dodecyl sulfate; and the method comprises the step of:
 - employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or
 - employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing the compound as a phase transfer catalyst.

10 16 17 (Previously Amended) A method of using a compound of the Formula 1 in a process



comprising the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive,
15 wherein:

R' is selected from the group consisting of a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or alicyclic, functionalized or non-functionalized alkyl radical with 3-36 carbon atoms, wherein R' is optionally functionalized with one or more X groups; X is selected from the group consisting of an -OH, -OR'', -COOH, -COOR'', -NH₂, -SO₄, -F, -Cl, -Br, -I or -CN; and R'' is
20 selected from the group consisting of a branched or linear hydrocarbon chain with 1 - 12 carbon atoms;

the compound has a melting point of less than 100° C;

the cation is a nitrogen-containing cation selected from the group consisting of a quaternary ammonium cation, an imidazolium cation, a pyridinium cation, a pyrazolium cation, a phosphonium and a triazolium cation;
25

the compound of the Formula 1 is substantially hydrolytically stable in neutral aqueous solution (pH = 7) up to 80° C.

17 18 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein (R'SO₄) has an empirical formula selected from the group consisting of C₄H₉SO₄, C₈H₁₇SO₄ or C₁₂H₂₅SO₄, and; the method
30 comprises the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; or employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing

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- 18 the compound as a phase transfer catalyst.
- 19 (Previously Amended) A method of using a compound of the Formula 1 in a process

(cation)(R'SO₄)
Formula 1

5 comprising the step of: employing the compound as a solvent, solvent additive, or extraction solvent; employing the compound as a heat carrier, or heat carrier additive; or employing the compound as a phase transfer catalyst, wherein:

- a) (R'SO₄) is an alkyl sulfate ester, wherein the alkyl moiety is selected from the group consisting of butyl, octyl, 2-ethylhexyl, and dodecyl;
- 10 b) the cation is a nitrogen containing cation selected from the group consisting of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium butyl, 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-octyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-dodecyl-3-methylimidazolium, 1-butyl-pyridinium, trimethyldecylammonium, trioctylmethylammonium, trimethyldecylammonium, and trihexyltetradecylphosphonium;
- 15 c) the compound has a melting point of less than 100° C; and
- d) the compound of the Formula 1 is substantially hydrolytically stable in neutral aqueous solution (pH = 7) up to 80° C.

19 18
20 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the process is a reaction catalyzed by a transition metal, and the reaction is a hydroformylation reaction, oligomerization reaction, esterification reaction, isomerization reaction or amide bond-forming reaction.

20 21 (Previously Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the process is a reaction catalyzed by an enzyme or biocatalyst, and the reaction is an oligomerization reaction, C-C bond-forming reaction, esterification reaction, isomerization reaction, or amide bond-forming reaction.

21 22 (Previously added) The method of claim 18, wherein the cation is selected from the group consisting of:
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a) quaternary ammonium cation with the general formula (NR₁R₂R₃R)⁺;

b) phosphonium cation with the general formula (PR₁R₂R₃R)⁺;

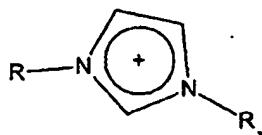
30 c) imidazolium cation with the general formula

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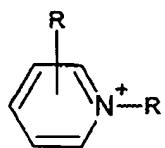
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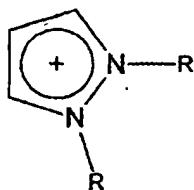
in which the imidazole core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group;

- 5 d) pyridinium cation with the general formula



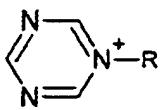
in which the pyridine core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group;

- 10 e) pyrazolium cation with the general formula



in which the pyrazole core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group; and

- 15 f) triazolium cation with the general formula



in which the triazole core is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl group, C₁-C₆ alkoxy group, C₁-C₆ aminoalkyl group, C₅-C₁₂ aryl group or C₅-C₁₂-aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl group; wherein

- 20 g) the radicals R¹, R², R³ are selected independently at each occurrence from the group

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consisting of:

- i) hydrogen;
- ii) linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or alicyclic alkyl groups with 1 to 20 carbon atoms;
- 5 iii) heteroaryl groups, heteroaryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 3 to 8 carbon atoms in the heteroaryl radical and at least one heteroatom selected from N, O and S which is optionally substituted with at least one group selected from C₁-C₆ alkyl groups and/or halogen atoms;
- iv) aryl, aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 5 to 12 carbon atoms in the aryl radical, which is 10 optionally substituted with at least one C₁-C₆ alkyl group and/or a halogen atom; and
- h) the radical R is selected from the group consisting of:
 - i) linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated, aliphatic or alicyclic alkyl groups with 1 to 20 carbon atoms;
 - ii) heteroaryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 3 to 8 carbon atoms in the aryl radical and at least 15 one heteroatom selected from N, O and S, which is optionally substituted with at least one C₁-C₆ alkyl group and/or halogen atom; and
 - iii) aryl-C₁-C₆ alkyl groups with 5 to 12 carbon atoms in the aryl radical, which is optionally substituted with at least one C₁-C₆ alkyl group and/or halogen atom.

20